



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PLATTE COUNTY SHERIFF INVESTIGATIONS RESULT IN SEXUAL ENTICEMENT CHARGES AGAINST TWO KANSANS AND AN ILLINOIS MAN

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that an Overland Park, Kan., man, a Gardner, Kan., man and an Illinois man were indicted by a federal grand jury today, in separate and unrelated cases, for attempting to entice minors to engage in sexually explicit conduct.

* **Keith E. Brooks**, 26, of Overland Park, Kan., was charged in a two-count indictment returned by a federal grand jury in Kansas City.

Count One of the federal indictment alleges that, between June 22 and 25, 2004, **Brooks** used the Internet to attempt to persuade a minor to engage in illicit sexual activity. According to the indictment, **Brooks** attempted to engage in sexual activity for which he could be charged under Missouri law with statutory rape and statutory sodomy.

Count Two of the federal indictment alleges that **Brooks** traveled across the state line on June 24, 2004, for the purpose of attempting to engage in illicit sexual conduct with another person.

* **Benjamin J. Larue**, 26, of Gardner, Kan., was charged in a two-count indictment returned by a federal grand jury in Kansas City.

Count One of the federal indictment alleges that, between June 21 and 24, 2004, **Larue** used the Internet to attempt to persuade a minor to engage in illicit sexual activity. According to the indictment, **Larue** attempted to engage in sexual activity for which he could be charged under Missouri law with statutory rape and statutory sodomy.

Count Two of the federal indictment alleges that **Larue** traveled across the state line on

June 24, 2004, for the purpose of attempting to engage in illicit sexual conduct with another person.

* **Jayapalan A. Rajan**, 35, of Woodridge, Ill., was charged in a three-count indictment returned by a federal grand jury in Kansas City.

Count One of the federal indictment alleges that, between May 27 and June 3, 2004, **Rajan** used the Internet to attempt to persuade a minor to engage in illicit sexual activity. According to the indictment, **Rajan** attempted to engage in sexual activity for which he could be charged under Missouri law with statutory sodomy.

Count Two of the federal indictment alleges that **Rajan** traveled across the state line on June 1, 2004, for the purpose of attempting to engage in illicit sexual conduct with another person.

Count Three of the federal indictment alleges that **Rajan** traveled across the state line on June 2, 2004, for the purpose of attempting to engage in illicit sexual conduct with another person.

Graves cautioned that the charges contained in these indictments are simply accusations, and not evidence of guilt. Evidence supporting the charges must be presented to a federal trial jury, whose duty is to determine guilt or innocence.

These cases are being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Katharine Fincham. The cases were investigated by the Platte County, Mo., Sheriff's Department and the Chicago, Ill., Police Department.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow